

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 183(RES)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/24/93
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES JAMES, Mulder

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act directing the identification and delineation of a transportation and utility
2 corridor between Fairbanks and the Seward Peninsula for road, rail, pipeline, and
3 electrical transmission purposes; and providing for an effective date."

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** AS 19.25 is amended by adding a new section to read:

6 **Sec. 19.25.123. FAIRBANKS - SEWARD PENINSULA TRANSPORTATION**
7 **AND UTILITY CORRIDOR.** (a) The northern region of the department shall identify
8 and delineate a proposed transportation and utility corridor between Fairbanks and the
9 western end of the Seward Peninsula. The corridor shall be sufficient to accommodate
10 construction of

- 11 (1) a road;
12 (2) an extension of the Alaska Railroad;
13 (3) oil, natural gas, or coal slurry pipelines, or any of them; and
14 (4) an electrical transmission line.

1 (b) In performing the work required by (a) of this section,
2 (1) the railroad alignment and identification of a railroad right-of-way
3 of not less than 500 feet shall guide the identification and delineation of the corridor;
4 and
5 (2) the northern region shall consider the following factors:
6 (A) grade and alignment standards that are commensurate with
7 rail and road construction standards;
8 (B) availability of construction materials;
9 (C) safety;
10 (D) service to adjacent communities;
11 (E) significant environmental concerns;
12 (F) use of public land to the maximum degree possible; and
13 (G) minimization of probable construction costs.
14 (c) Within 90 days after receiving a report transmitting the work of the
15 northern region of the department under (a) of this section, the commissioner shall, in
16 conformity with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), if necessary, adopt a
17 regulation approving, modifying, or rejecting the proposed corridor.
18 (d) If the commissioner approves or modifies the proposed corridor when
19 presented under (c) of this section,
20 (1) the Department of Natural Resources shall promptly classify, or
21 reclassify, and reserve any state land within the corridor for use as a corridor; and
22 (2) the department shall
23 (A) exercise its authority under AS 19.05.040 to acquire
24 rights-of-way across land within the corridor that is subject to the state's power
25 of condemnation; and
26 (B) work with federal officials to secure reclassification and
27 withdrawal of federal land in the corridor for reservations and rights-of-way
28 across the federal land for use as a corridor.
29 (e) The requirements of AS 38.05 (Alaska Land Act) relating to classification
30 and reclassification of land are inapplicable to actions taken under this section.
31 (f) To complete the work required by this section, the commissioner may

1 accept any legal gifts and grants and may enter into contracts or other transactions or
2 agreements relating to it with the federal government, an agency or instrumentality of
3 the state, a municipality, or a private organization.

4 (g) In this section, "corridor" means the transportation and utility corridor
5 required to be identified and delineated by (a) of this section.

6 * Sec. 2. AS 19.25.123, added by sec. 1 of this Act, is repealed July 1, 2055.

7 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).